

BAKKER SAYS PEOPLE CAN GO TO HEAVEN WITHOUT CHRIST

September 10, 2000 (Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org) - The following is from What in the World! Vol. 27 No. 11, 2000:

Jim Bakker, former leader of the PTL ministry, said in a January 25 broadcast of Larry King Live, "Every person who died in the Holocaust is in heaven." King asked, "What you're saying, in a sense, is you don't have to believe in Christ to go to heaven..." Bakker replied, "I believe that decision is in God's hands, not mine." King responded, "If they all died Jews or many, most died Jews, then they're in heaven?" Bakker replied, "That's right" (Foundation, March-April, 2000).

In a letter to the editor of Charisma (June 2000), Bakker defended his view: "As I studied the Word while I was in prison, and as I read Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel's Night Trilogy, I came to an answer to this question. . . . Martyrs for the cause of Christ and the kingdom of God, according to God's Word, go to heaven" (What in the World! Vol. 27 No. 11, 2000)